CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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| | SECURIT INFORMATION | | | 25 X 1 |
|---------------|--|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| OUNTRY | Czechoslovakia/USSR | REPORT | | |
| UBJECT | 1. Planned Increase in Soviet Orbit Armaments Production | DATE DISTR. | 20 May 1953 | |
| | 2. Conversion of Kovosvit, Sezimovo Usti to Armaments Production | NO. OF PAGES | 1 · | |
| ATE OF INFO. | | REQUIREMENT NO. | RD | *. |
| LACE ACQUIRED | | REFERENCES | | 25 X 1 |
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- 1. Conferences in Moscow on the economic policy for the entire Soviet Orbit have been going on. These conferences were attended by Julius Maurer, Czechoslovak Minister without Portfolio, and Richard Dvorak, Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Trade.

 Lazar Moyseyevich Kaganovich, Soviet Deputy Premier, and Anastasi Ivanovich Mikoyan, Soviet Minister of Trade, placed greatly increased demands upon Czechoslovak industry, and as a result armament industry factories in Czechoslovakia are to be enlarged by 25% by 30 June 1953 (sic) and armaments production is to be increased 15% by the same date. Directives concerning these increases were issued on 15 April 1953 by Dr. Jaromir Dolansky, Czechoslovak Deputy Premier, who is in charge of the economic policy of the government.
- 2. The first step in this increase in armaments production is being made at the Kovosvit plant in Sezimovo Usti (050/M01), which until now has been engaged in the production of lathes, drills and agricultural machinery under the designation MAS. Production is being changed to RP5 type machines for the manufacture of revolvers and rifles, and the number of employees at the plant has been raised from 2,000 to 3,500, with five new workshops being built. The plant has also been placed on a three shift basis. The administration of the plant is subordinate to the general management of the Soviet arms combine in Kharkov.
- 3. Kovosvit has been placed under strict semi-military control by the StB. A unit consisting mainly of political prisoners from Tabor and Benesov is expected at the plant soon to do forced labor there. Organization of their work will be done by the plant's security officer, Moulis (fnu), and the commander of the works militia, Minarik (fnu).
- 4. During 1953 the production of agricultural machinery is to be cut by 40% in favor of armaments production.

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